

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claim 5 as indicated below.

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 13 and 14 as presented below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A clamping spring device for an elastic clamp for attaching at least one electrical conductor, comprising:

a support including a freestanding edge; and

a clamping leg disposed at an end of a spring leg, the clamping leg projecting toward the support at an acute angle so as to form a receiving space between the clamping leg and the support, the receiving space narrowing in a conductor insertion direction from a conductor insertion side toward a clamping point and being configured to receive the at least one electrical conductor inserted in a lengthwise direction of the at least one electrical conductor, the clamping leg including a clamping edge on a face thereof so as to be capable of clamping the at least one electrical conductor between the clamping edge and the support at the clamping point in a clamping position;

wherein, in the clamping position, the clamping leg is offset from the freestanding edge in the conductor insertion direction so that, when clamped, the at least one electrical conductor is bent around the freestanding edge so as to provide an interlocking effect.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 1 wherein the freestanding edge projects toward the clamping leg.

Claim 4 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 1 wherein the support includes a tongue having a free end cut and bent out of a plane of the support, the freestanding edge projecting from the tongue.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 1 wherein the support defines a hole, an edge of the hole forming the freestanding edge.

Claim 6 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 5 wherein a second edge of the hole opposite the freestanding edge forms a second freestanding edge, and wherein, in the clamping position, the clamping edge is aligned with a central portion of the hole so that, when clamped, the at least one electrical conductor is bent around the second freestanding edge.

Claim 7 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 5 wherein the hole extends through the support.

Claim 8 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 1 further comprising a second clamping leg disposed on an end of a second spring leg opposite the support, the second clamping leg including a second clamping edge and defining a second clamping point, the second spring leg disposed adjacent the spring leg, the support including a second freestanding edge for the second clamping point.

Claim 9 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 1 further comprising a second clamping leg disposed on an end of a second spring leg and opposite the support, the second spring leg disposed adjacent the spring leg, the second clamping leg including a second clamping edge and defining, with the freestanding edge, a second clamping point.

Claim 10 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 1 wherein the support includes a metal plate, the metal plate being flat in a region of the clamping point.

Claim 11 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 10 wherein the support is formed by a first wall and the spring leg is formed by a second wall, the first and second walls being opposite each other and forming a one-piece box-type spring, the spring leg being formed by a section stamped free from the second wall.

Claim 12 (original): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 1 wherein the clamping edge defines an indentation configured to partially encircle the at least one electrical conductor when clamped.

Claim 13 (new): A clamping spring device for an elastic clamp for attaching at least one electrical conductor, comprising:

 a support including a freestanding edge; and

 a clamping leg disposed at an end of a spring leg, the clamping leg projecting toward the support at an acute angle so as to form a receiving space between the clamping leg and the support, the receiving space narrowing in a conductor insertion direction from a conductor insertion side toward a clamping point and being configured to receive the at least one electrical conductor inserted in a lengthwise direction of the at least one electrical conductor, the clamping leg including a clamping edge on a face thereof so as to be capable of clamping the at least one electrical conductor between the clamping edge and the support at the clamping point in a clamping position;

 wherein, in the clamping position, the clamping leg is offset from the freestanding edge in the conductor insertion direction so that, when clamped, the at least one electrical conductor is bent around the freestanding edge so as to provide an interlocking effect;

 wherein a second edge of the hole opposite the freestanding edge forms a second freestanding edge, and wherein, in the clamping position, the clamping edge is aligned with a central portion of the hole so that, when clamped, the at least one electrical conductor is bent around the second freestanding edge.

Claim 14 (new): The clamping spring device as recited in claim 1 wherein:

 the freestanding edge projects toward the clamping leg; and

 the clamping leg is offset behind the freestanding edge in the conductor insertion direction so that the freestanding edge projects toward the clamping leg ahead of the clamping leg in the conductor insertion direction.